

VISIT...

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THE RIOTOUS RETURN OF... YOU KNOW WHO!

EXCALIBUR™



**PWEPARE
TO DIE!**

**50
YEARS**



CAPTAIN AMERICA

1941 - 1991

ALAN DAVIS
MACK FINEBERG

THE OLD PIER-- BRIGHTON, ENGLAND... CURRENTLY HOME TO GATECRASHER'S TECHNET, A GROUP OF INTER-DIMENSIONAL MERCENARIES.

ALIVE!
HA HA HA!

IT'S
ALIVE!

QUERY STATUS
GATECRASHER.
BEHAVIOR
IRRATIONAL?

AYE, OUR
ILLUSTRIOUS
LEADER'S
CRACKED BY
CROAKY!

NEW
LEADER WE
NEED.

I HEARD THAT
YOU MUTINIOUS
PARASITES!

YOU WERE ALL EAGER
TO JOIN MY TECHNET AND
SHARE IN THE FAT REWARD
I NEGOTIATED WHEN THE
OMNIVERSAL MAJESTRIX,
OPAL LUNA SATURNINE,
COMMISSIONED US TO
CAPTURE THE MUTANT
PHOENIX. *

EXILED
US T' THIS
PRIMITIVE
MUD-HOLE,
SHE DID!

ONLY BECAUSE
YOU GUTLESS WONDERS
PERFORMED SO BADLY
IN OUR LAST ENCOUNTER
WITH EXCALIBUR.

BUT THIS
TIME IT
WILL BE
DIFFERENT...

...THIS TIME MY
GENIUS WILL BE
RECOGNIZED.

I HAVE A PLAN...
AND WITH MY EXTENSIVE
SKILLS IN BIOGENIC
NUCLEONIC SPLICING
I HAVE CREATED THE
ULTIMATE SUPER-SECRET
MEGA-WEAPON!

THE POWERFUL CAPTAIN BRITAIN, THE SHAPE-CHANGING MEGAN, THE INTANGIBLE SHADOWCAT, THE SWASHBUCKLING NIGHTCRAWLER, THE MYSTERIOUS PHOENIX, THE EVER-UNPREDICTABLE WIDGET AND LOCKHEED THE DRAGON FORGED IN THE FIRES OF THEIR TRAGIC PASTS. THEY HAVE BANNED TOGETHER TO FIGHT A MODERN DAY CRUSADE AGAINST THE FORCES OF EVIL! STAN LEE PRESENTS...

BEHOLD!

EXCALIBUR
DOESN'T STAND
A CHANCE.

WE BEGIN OUR
OPERATION AT
DAWN.

EXCALIBUR

A
HATCH
IS
PLOTTED

ALAN DAVIS, WRITER/PENCILER
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EXCALIBUR CREATED BY CHRIS CLAREMONT AND ALAN DAVIS
MARK FARMER, INKER
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THE EXCALIBUR LIGHTHOUSE...
SHORTLY AFTER
DAWN...

--TWENTY-THREE
PASSENGERS RECEIVED
MINOR INJURIES WHEN
THEIR TRAIN WAS
DERAILED AT
BRIDGLINGTON
JUNCTION.

A GOVERNMENT
SPOKESMAN, MR. NIGEL
ORPINGTON-SMYTHE,
CLAIMED THAT THE
FORTUNATE LACK OF
FATALITIES WAS
ENTIRELY DUE TO THE
SUPER-GROUP
EXCALIBUR...

...WHO WORKED
TIRELESSLY AT THE
CRASH SITE FOR
OVER SEVEN HOURS.

MR. ORPINGTON-
SMYTHE BELIEVES THAT
EXCALIBUR'S HEROIC
EFFORTS SHOULD BE
REWARDED IN THE
QUEEN'S NEW YEAR
HONORS LIST
AND...

ACH! WHY DOES MR.
ORPINGTON-SMYTHE GIVE
NO CREDIT TO THE OTHER
HUNDRED AND FIFTY
RESCUE WORKERS?

THE NOVELTY OF
OUR POWERS MAKES
US NEWSWORTHY...

JA, BUT THE OTHERS' LACK
OF POWERS MAKES THEM MORE
HEROIC!

WHY ARE YOU SO
ANGRY? THE MAN IS
OBVIOUSLY A LEECH,
USING THE PUBLICITY
AROUND OUR ACTIVITIES
TO GET HIMSELF
NOTICED.

EXACTLY,
BRIAN! IT
MAKES ME
FEEL LIKE
A... A...

BOILED
EGG,
KURT?

HUH?!

ONE OR
TWO?

ONE,
DANKE.

KITTY?

RACHEL?

JUST
TOAST,
PLEASE,
MEGGAN.

SAME
HERE...BUT
LIQUIDIZE
IT...I'M TOO
TIRED TO
CHEW.





WELL, YEW
GET WID OF
HAWD-BOILED HENWY
THAT EASYVY.

OVERPAH
TEW MEET
YAW DOOM!



I HAVE BEEN
CHOSEN BY THE
SUPREME
BWLLENT
INCREDIBLE,
MAGNIFICENT,
INVINCIBLE
GATEWASHER...



GATEWASHER?



...TO STWIKE
A BWOW THAT
WILL HEWALD
YAW DEFEAT IN
ONE SECOND...



RACHEL...

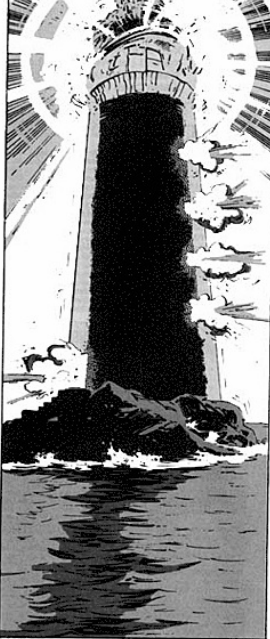
...SCHNELL...

...ITS
A...

3

...BOOM!

THOOW





--WE'RE STUCK
IN...

...WHERE ARE
WE STUCK IN?

IT'S TINY. WE'RE LUCKY
NOT TO HAVE MATERIAL-
IZED INSIDE A
WALL.

Last fix on Hard-Boiled
Henry :gasp: Kitchen, I think
:gasp: breathe in, Mother
:gasp: you're squash-
ing me...



Sorry, Mother, some
'intrinsic quality of the stone-
work distorted my perception
of the spatial dimensions.

ENOUGH
EXCUSES--
WHERE ARE
EXCALIBUR?

ATOMIZED
THINK I...

BLOWN UP
THROUGH THE
ROOF.

GROANN...



NO, THEY
BE ALIVE--WE
BE STANDIN'
ON 'EM.



Your plan was a
big success, Mother--
you have literally
CRUSHED EXCALIBUR!
Sneeeeee.

DON'T CALL
ME "MOTHER,"
LIZARD!

NOW GET US
OUT OF HERE BEFORE
I TAKE A DEEP BREATH
AND CRUSH YOUR--



Yes, Mother.

BODYBAG, GIFT WRAP OUR
LITTLE TROPHY. WE DON'T WANT
PHOENIX WAKING BEFORE WE
DELIVER HER TO
SATURNINE.

ZOORT

BODYBAG IS THE
PERFECT CUSTODIAN...



...HIS SPECIES PRESERVE THEIR
PREY IN A NARCOTIC MEMBRANE
THAT PARALYZES ALL BUT THE
MOST ESSENTIAL BODY FUN-
CTIONS.

CASH ON DELIVERY,
OPTIMUM AFFLUENCE
ANTICIPATED. JOY,
OH JOY.



YES,
NUMBERS. A
PROFITABLE
VICTORY!

DREAM
ON, FATSO



NO!
IT CAN'T
BE.



IT CAN. PHOENIX
MANAGED TO DEFLECT
THE MAIN EXPLOSIVE
BLAST...

...AND I PHASED
SO THE CONCLUSIVE
SHOCK COULD PASS
THROUGH ME--



--JUST AS
HARMLESSLY AS
YOUR ENERGY
BANDS DO
RINGTOSS.

YOU CAN'T
HOPE TO FIGHT
US ALL, CHILD!



I DIDN'T THINK I
COULD, MADAM BLIMP--

--I ONLY PLANNED
TO KEEP PHOENIX
PHASED OUT OF
YOUR REACH--

...AND DISTRACT YOU
TILL MY TEAMMATES
RECOVERED.



ALAS, SCATTERBRAIN
DOESN'T NEED TO MAKE
PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH
SHADOWCAT TO FIRE
EVERY NEURAL SYNAPSE...

...AND EXPAND HER
CONSCIOUSNESS
THROUGH INFINITY.

FINISH 'EM WHILE THEY'RE STILL GROGGY.

AS CAPTAIN BRITAIN ENGAGES THE TECHNET BRAWLERS--

--FERRO?--

...AND THUG--

--HE IS TARGETED, IN TURN, BY JOYBOY--

...WHO CAN PERCEIVE THE HEARTS FONDEST DESIRE...

...TWIST IT SAVAGELY AND GIVE IT NIGHTMAREISH REALITY.

FORTUNATELY THE PROCESS REQUIRES INTENSE CONCENTRATION AND HE IS EASILY DISTRACTED.

BOOF



WHEREAS THE MEREST TOUCH FROM WAXWORK CAUSES NIGHTCRAWLERS DISCIPLINED BODY TO LOSE ALL RIGIDITY--

--AND CHINA DOLL'S CARESS QUICKLY REDUCES MEGGANS' STATUE--



WHA...?

SELF NON-COMBATANT. DESIGNATED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT.

WELL, I'VE NEVER MET AN ACCOUNTANT...



...WHO DIDN'T EXPECT A PERCENTAGE OF EVERYTHING HIS CLIENT GOT.



GEDDOFF, THOU SNIVELIN' BOOK-KEEP.

OH, THE BURDEN OF LEADERSHIP.



IF YOU WANT ANYTHING DONE PROPERLY, YOU HAVE TO DO IT YOURSELF.

UNH!



UNH!

UNH!



UNH?



WHAT HAPPENED?

THEY STOPPED IN MID-ATTACK--FROZEN LIKE STATUES.

AND THE EFFECTS OF THEIR POWERS HAVE FADED.

RACHEL?

WASN'T ME.



IT WAS I!

GOOD MORROW,
BRAVE SOULS.

I AM HORATIO CRINGEBOTTOM
FROM THE MINISTRY FOR CROSS-
TIME TRANSPORT REGULATION
MONITOR AND CONTROL, SAN-
CTION IMPLEMENTATION
DEPARTMENT--

--OPERATING CHARTER
AUTHORIZED BY MAJESTRIK
OPAL LUNA SATURNINNE -- BY
DECREE OF THE SUPREME OM-
NIVERSAL GUARDIAN ROMA,
DAUGHTER OF MERLYN, SOVER-
EIGN OF OTHERWORLD.

THIS IS
BERT.

HIO!

WE
ARE CHARGED TO PROSECUTE A WRIT
CONCERNING NI-
MEROUS VIOLATIONS
OF INTERDIMENSIONAL
TRANSIT REGU-
LATIONS.

I PLACED THE
TECHNET IN STASIS
TO PREVENT ANY
UNPLEASANTNESS.

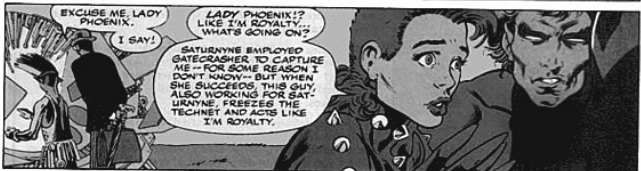
TAKE THEM AWAY,
WE WILL BE GLAD
TO SEE THE BACK
OF THEM.

PLEASE,
YOU MISHUNDERSTAND.
ALTHOUGH THE TECHNET
ARE GUILTY OF TRANS-
GRESSING COUNT-
LESS STATUTES...

...AND GATECRASHER-- A
THOROUGHLY OBJECTIONABLE
INDIVIDUAL-- HAS CAUSED MY
GOOD SELF CONSIDERABLE
IRRITATION IN THE PAST...

...TODAY'S
IMPERATIVE
CONCERNS THE
ENTITY
WIDGET.

BEERK!



...HIS INTERNAL COMPOSITION HAS BERT BAFFLED.

OOOPS!

MURDERER! YOU'VE KILLED WIDGET!

NEGATORY. IT'S SAFE IN A NULTIME SUSPENSION FIELD.

PLEASE DON'T BE ALARMED, DESPITE BERT'S UNCOUTH APPEARANCE, HE IS AMONG THE ELITE OF TEMPORAL CYBERRELATIVITY TECHNICIANS.
BERT, EXPLAIN YOUR FINDINGS.

THAT PUZZLED ME FOR MONTHS... WHAT HELD THE PLATES TOGETHER?

A FLUCTUATING HYPERWAVE PULSE IN AN ECCENTRIC MAGNETIC FIELD.

HOT BABE

OH... RIGHT!

THE OUTER CASING IS COMPOSED OF LOW GRADE CHROMED STEEL --STRESS ANALYSIS SUGGESTS IT WAS SHAPED BY HAND--NO WELDING, PINNING OR JOINTS...

THE CASING CONTAINS A SLUDGE OF ORGANIC SOUP--PRIMARILY DECOMPOSING BAKED BEANS AND APPLE CORE--PRIMITIVE TRANSISTOR COMPONENTS, A RUBBER SPIDER, A KEY...

WHAT COULD ANIMATE THIS CONGLOMERATION?

THERE IS A HIGHLY ACTIVE ENERGY MATRIX--NOTHING I CAN QUANTIFY--IT HAS NO RELIANCE ON THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE COMPONENTS.

AWESOME!

IS IT LIFE FORCE?

THAT'S A JOB FOR THE META-PHYSICS DEPARTMENT. THE ONLY LIFE I CAN CATEGORIZE IS THE FUNGI AND BACTERIA IN THIS GOOP.

BEST BET IS TO IMPLANT A G/9543/CV#7 AND PUT WIDGET BACK TOGETHER, 'RATIO.

AN ELEGANT SOLUTION, BERT.

WAIT, IF YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND HOW WIDGET WORKS, HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT THING WON'T HARM HIM?

IT'S A PASSIVE NEXUS WITH A LOGISTIC INTEGRITY--

IN ENGLISH!

YUM!!

OKAY, CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT THE RADIO STATIONS HERE. THE AIR IS FILLED WITH THEIR TRANSMISSIONS BUT EACH BROADCASTS ON A DIFFERENT WAVELENGTH.

TO RECEIVE A PARTICULAR STATION, YOU MATCH THE WAVELENGTH OF THE RECEIVER WITH THAT OF THE TRANSMITTER.

A SIMILAR PRINCIPLE GOVERNS THE MULTIVERSE.

ALL OF THE ALTERNATE REALITIES OCCUPY THE SAME PHYSICAL SPACE BUT EACH RESONATES ON A DIFFERENT VIBRATIONAL PLANE.

MOVING FROM ONE PLANE TO ANOTHER IS SIMPLY A MATTER OF SYNCHRONIZING AN INDIVIDUAL RESONANCE WITH A PARTICULAR PLANE.

THE G/9543/CV#7 REMAINS DORMANT UNLESS IT PERCEIVES CROSSTIME FLUX--

FACE

--THEN IT SIMPLY CONCENTRATES THE ENTITY'S RESONANCE WITHIN THIS REALITY, PREVENTING TRANSIT.

BUT IN EVERY OTHER WAY...







I DON'T
KNOW...PUFF...
HOW YOU DID
THAT...

...BUT
NOBODY LAUGHS
AT GATECRASHER
AND LIVES.



GO AHEAD,
GIVE US A REAL
LAUGH...

...TRY AND
TAKE US WHILE WE'RE
CONSCIOUS.

WHILE YOU'RE
CONSIDERING
YOUR OPTIONS...

--A GENTLEMAN
NAMED CRINGEBOTTOM
LEFT THIS FOR YOU.

IT'S FROM
HER ROYAL WHYNNESS,
THE OMNIVERSAL
MAJESTRIK.



...SATURNYNE.

YOU ARE
NOTIFIED
HEREWITH THAT
THE WARRANT
CONCERNING
THE PHOENIX
HOST IS
RESCINDED.

BUT...

UNDER THE
TERMINATION
CLAUSE OF
YOUR CONTRACT,
YOU HAVE NO
ENTITLEMENT
TO MONETARY
COMPEN-
SATION--

BUT...

--AND THE
TECHNETS EXILE
TO EARTH 616 IS
EXTENDED
INDEFINITELY.

BUT...

AND DON'T
BE STUPID
ENOUGH TO
PLEAD WITH
THIS HOLO-
GRAPHIC
RECORDING.

BUT...
BUT...

Mother...

PERMANENT
EXILE.

...mutiny.

BUT...

NO
MONEY.

SCRAG
HER.

...GET
US OUT OF
HERE.

ZOOPT



...EE'RATH--

--ONE OF THE CHAIN OF INFINITE ALTERNATE EARTHS THAT COIL THROUGH THE MULTIVERSE.

TIME FLOWS MORE QUICKLY HERE THAN IN OUR REALITY, SO THIS IS AN ANCIENT WORLD IN THE TWILIGHT OF PLANETARY LIFE.

BUT AGE DOES NOT BESTOW SERENITY--

--THE ETERNAL CONFLICT BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL CONTINUES...

NECROM DEMANDS YOUR HOMAGE.

WHY DO YOU BURN OUR HOMES?

WE HAVE DONE NO WRONG.

QUESTION NOT YOUR MASTER'S DESIRE, FOLLOW ME NOW OR DIE WHERE YOU STAND.

IT'S NOT POLITE TO THREATEN FOLK, DRUID.

YOU!! I WILL SCORCH THE FLESH FROM YOUR BONES.

GO AHEAD, PUNK...

